

Policy Guidance for Departure Procedures to Support Air Traffic (AT)

Pending revision to FAA Order 8260.46, Instrument Departure Procedure (DP) Program, the following guidance is provided to supplement FAA Order 8260.46:

a. Background. Published DP's will assist AT in meeting environmental, capacity, and control requirements, while also providing protection from obstacles.

(1) Environmental: AT may require routings and altitudes to meet their environmental (noise restriction) requirements.

(2) Capacity: AT may require routings and altitudes which facilitate meeting desired number of departures.

(3) Control: AT may require routings and altitudes which allow positive control of traffic with minimal radio traffic.

b. AT Requests: When requesting a DP, AT must provide AVN detailed operational requirements and restrictions for inclusion in DP design. AVN shall make all efforts to meet AT identified operational requirements and constraints through judicious application of current development criteria and policy. When current criteria and policy will not support a design to meet AT requirements, AVN, AT, and other interested parties should work together to find an acceptable solution. AFS-420 will provide assistance on request.

c. Minimum turn altitude: Departing aircraft should not be required to turn before reaching an altitude that is 400 feet above the departure end of the runway (DER).

d. Charting minimum altitudes: All graphic DP's will depict minimum altitudes for obstruction clearance; and, where air traffic requires greater than standard climb gradient, minimum air traffic altitudes. Enter minimum departure altitudes at the appropriate fix/waypoint on page 3 of 4 pages of the FAA Form 8260.15B under the "ALTITUDE" column. Air traffic minimum altitudes will be noted with "(ATC)," e.g., 900 (ATC). If necessary use multiple lines per leg to accommodate altitudes. For transitions, entries on the FAA Form 8260.15B, enter minimum fix altitudes in the "Crossing Altitudes/Fixes" column. Annotate air traffic minimum altitudes with "(ATC)." Use TERPS paragraph 1730 to establish minimum crossing altitudes as appropriate.

e. The following supplemental guidance relates to FAA Form 8260-15B:

(1) Lost Communications Instructions (Block 1b): ATC is responsible for determining the need and content of lost communications instructions.

(2) Procedural Data Notes (Block4): DP's will depict all restrictions and performance requirements to fly the procedure. Additionally, all charted DP's will depict all takeoff minimums affecting the procedure. Enter takeoff minimums (even if standard), restrictions, and performance requirements.

f. Change FAA Order 8260.46, Appendix 5, page 7, Block (6). Additional Flight Data to read: List any additional charting instructions, items essential to clarify charting, or information a specialist wants charted as other than a Note. Examples of data may include: terrain features, airports, MOA's, or takeoff and departure obstacles.

g. Change FAA Order 8260.46, Appendix 5, page 8, Block (16). Other Pertinent Data to read: List information/data which is NOT to be charted; e.g., administrative data, notes for controller information (requested by ATC), or notes for publication instruction. These items would not be seen in the NFDD.

h. Change FAA Order 8260.46, Appendix 5, page 12, Block1. Fix/Navaid (OPR: Air Traffic) to read: Enter the name of the fix/NAVAID in the appropriate format: (fix) 5-letter pronounceable name; or (NAVAID) 3-letter facility ID and type; e.g., ABC VORTAC.